

Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A gel composition that is the combination of or reaction product of ingredients comprising:

a ~~thermoplastic elastomer~~ styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene copolymer copolymer,
a nylon-grafted elastomer; and
an extender.

2. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, where the ingredients comprise from about 5 to about 80 parts by weight of said nylon-grafted elastomer per 100 parts by weight of said ~~thermoplastic elastomer~~ styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene copolymer, and from about 5 to about 1,000 parts by weight of said extender per 100 parts by weight of said ~~thermoplastic elastomer~~ styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene.

3. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, where the ingredients comprise from about 20 to about 80 parts by weight of said nylon-grafted elastomer per 100 parts by weight of said ~~thermoplastic elastomer~~ styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene copolymer, and from about 10 to about 800 parts by weight of said extender per 100 parts by weight of said ~~thermoplastic elastomer~~ styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The composition of claim 1, where said extender is an oil or low molecular weight organic compound.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 7, where said oil is a naphthenic, aromatic, paraffinic, phthalic, or silicone oil.

9. (Original) The composition of claim 1, where said nylon-grafted elastomer includes nylon-12.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 1, where said elastomer to which the nylon is grafted includes polybutadiene, poly(styrene-*co*-butadiene), polyisoprene, poly(styrene-*co*-butadiene-*co*-isoprene), poly(styrene-*co*-isoprene), copolymers of ethylene and an α -olefin and terpolymers of ethylene, an α -olefin, and diene monomers.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 10, where said elastomer includes a functional group deriving from unsaturated carboxylic acids or unsaturated anhydrides.

12. (Original) The composition of claim 10, where said elastomer is maleated ethylene-propylene rubber.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 12, where said maleated ethylene-propylene rubber includes form about 0.01 to about 10 % by weight substituents deriving from maleic acid.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 1, where said nylon-grafted elastomer is the reaction product of a nylon and a maleated rubber.

15. (Original) The composition of claim 14, where said nylon-grafted elastomer is the reaction product of nylon-12 and maleated ethylene-propylene rubber.

16. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, where the gel composition is formed by mixing said ~~thermoplastic elastomer~~ styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene copolymer, said nylon-grafted elastomer, and said extender in the solid state.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 1, where the ingredients comprise a nylon-12 grafted ethylene-propylene rubber, a styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene copolymer, and a paraffin oil.

18. (cancelled)

19. (Withdrawn) A disk drive assembly for computers comprising a gasket formed by melt extruding a composition that is the combination or reaction product of ingredients comprising:

a ~~thermoplastic elastomer~~ styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene copolymer,
a nylon-grafted elastomer; and
an extender.

20. (New) A gel composition that is the combination of or reaction product of ingredients comprising:

a thermoplastic elastomer;
from about 5 to about 80 parts by weight of a nylon-grafted elastomer per 100 parts by weight of thermoplastic elastomer; and
from about 10 to about 800 parts by weight of an extender per 100 parts by weight of said thermoplastic elastomer, where the composition is characterized by a Shore A hardness of less than about 25 and a compression set at 100°C of less than about 50.

21. (New) The gel composition of claim 20, where the composition includes from about 25 to about 600 parts by weight of the extender per 100 parts by weight of thermoplastic elastomer.

22. (New) The gel composition of claim 20, where the composition includes from about 166 to about 600 parts by weight of the extender per 100 parts by weight of thermoplastic elastomer.

23. (New) The gel composition of claim 20, where the extender is a naphthenic, aromatic, paraffinic, phthalic, or silicone oil.